

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An information processing method for editing multimedia content including metadata, the method comprising:

receiving operation information about an editing operation;
reading reliability information from the metadata;
determining, in accordance with the operation information and the reliability information, whether the metadata is usable for edited multimedia content edited by the editing operation in accordance with the operation information and a property of the metadata, where a change in the reliability of the metadata due to the editing operation is written in the property of the metadata; and
adding the metadata to the edited multimedia content if the metadata is determined to be usable.

2. (cancelled)
3. (currently amended) An information processing method for editing multimedia content including metadata, the method comprising:

receiving operation information about an editing operation;

adding the operation information, ~~as an operation record, to a property of the metadata, where a change in the reliability of the metadata due to the editing operation is written in the property of the metadata;~~

reading the operation information and reliability information from property of the metadata; and

determining, in accordance with the operation information and the reliability information, whether the metadata is usable for edited multimedia content edited by the editing operation in accordance with the operation information about the editing operation and the read property of the metadata,

wherein, if the metadata is determined to be usable, the metadata is added to the edited multimedia content.

4. (cancelled)

5. (withdrawn) An information processing method for retrieving predetermined metadata in multimedia content including metadata, the method comprising:

a retrieving step of retrieving the predetermined metadata in the multimedia content in accordance with predetermined retrieval conditions;

a reading step of reading a property of the retrieved metadata in which a change in the reliability of the retrieved metadata due to a predetermined operation is written;

a calculating step of calculating the reliability of the retrieved metadata in accordance with an operation record and the change in the reliability written in the property of the retrieved metadata; and

an outputting step of outputting, as a retrieval result, metadata with a reliability greater than or equal to a predetermined reliability.

6. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for editing multimedia content including metadata, the apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit~~means configured to receive~~ ~~for receiving~~ operation information about an editing operation;

a reading unit ~~configured to read reliability information from the metadata;~~
a determining unit~~means configured to determine~~ ~~for determining~~ ~~in accordance with the operation information and the reliability information~~, whether the metadata is usable for edited multimedia content ~~edited by the editing operation~~~~in accordance with the operation information about the editing operation and a property of the metadata, where change in the reliability of the metadata due to the editing operation is written in the property of the metadata~~; and

an adding unit ~~configured to add~~ ~~means for adding~~ the metadata to the edited multimedia content if the metadata is determined to be usable.

7. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for editing multimedia content including metadata, the apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit~~means configured to receive~~ ~~for receiving~~ operation information about an editing operation; and

an adding unit~~means configured to add~~ ~~for adding~~ the operation information ~~to the metadata~~; as an operation record to a property of the metadata, where a change in the

~~reliability of the metadata due to the editing operation is written in the property of the metadata;~~

a reading unit~~means configured to read for reading the operation information and reliability information from property of the metadata; and~~

a determination unit~~means configured to determine for determining, in accordance with the operation information and the reliability information, whether the metadata is usable for edited multimedia content edited by the editing operation in accordance with the operation information about the editing operation and the read property of the metadata,~~

wherein, if the metadata is determined to be usable, the metadata is added to the edited multimedia content.

8. (withdrawn) An information processing apparatus for retrieving predetermined metadata in multimedia content including metadata, the apparatus comprising:

retrieving means for retrieving the predetermined metadata in the multimedia content in accordance with predetermined retrieval conditions;

reading means for reading a property of the retrieved metadata in which a change in the reliability of the retrieved metadata due to a predetermined operation is written;

calculating means for calculating the reliability of the retrieved metadata in accordance with an operation record and the change in the reliability written in the property of the retrieved metadata; and

outputting means for outputting, as a retrieval result, metadata with a reliability greater than or equal to a predetermined reliability.

9. (currently amended) Computer-executable process steps, stored on a computer-readable storage medium, A control program for causing a computer to execute the information processing method as set forth in any one of the Claims 1 to 5.

10. (new) An information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the reliability information indicates the reliability of the metadata.

11. (new) An information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the reliability information is based on the operation information.

12. (new) An information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein determining whether the metadata is usable includes comparing the reliability information with predetermined reliability information.

13. (new) An information processing method according to Claim 3, wherein the reliability information indicates the reliability of the metadata.

14. (new) An information processing method according to Claim 3, wherein the reliability information is based on the operation information.

15. (new) An information processing method according to Claim 3,

wherein determining whether the metadata is usable includes comparing the reliability information with predetermined reliability information.

16. (new) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6,
wherein the reliability information indicates the reliability of the metadata.

17. (new) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6,
wherein the reliability information is based on the operation information.

18. (new) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6,
wherein determining whether the metadata is usable includes comparing the reliability information with predetermined reliability information.

19. (new) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7,
wherein the reliability information indicates the reliability of the metadata.

20. (new) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7,
wherein the reliability information is based on the operation information.

21. (new) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7,
wherein determining whether the metadata is usable includes comparing the reliability information with predetermined reliability information.

22. (new) Computer-executable process steps stored on a computer-readable storage medium, the computer-executable process steps causing a computer to execute the method of claim 3.